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Sustainable development: Convention on Biological Diversity

Mexico and South Africa:* draft resolution

International Year of Biodiversity, 2010

The General Assembly,

Recalling chapter 15 of Agenda 21[1] on the conservation of biological diversity adopted at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,

Recalling also the Convention on Biological Diversity,[2] which was ratified by 189 Member States, and the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity, [3]

Further recalling the commitment to a more effective and coherent implementation of the three objectives of the Convention, and the target "to achieve by 2010 a significant reduction of the current rate of biodiversity loss at global, regional and national levels as a contribution to poverty alleviation and to the benefit of all life on earth", adopted at the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, held in The Hague in 2002, and endorsed by the The Hague Ministerial Declaration, as well as the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[4]

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome adopted at the 2005 World Summit, held in New York in September 2005, in which State parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity[2] and the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety[3] were

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

[3] See UNEP/CBD/ExCOP1/3 and Corr.1, part two, annex.

[4] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

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called on to support the Johannesburg commitment for a significant reduction in the rate of biodiversity loss by 2010,

Recalling also the need to expedite the implementation of the Global Initiative on Communication, Education and Public Awareness of the Convention on Biological Diversity,

Deeply concerned by the continued loss of biodiversity and its social, economic, environmental and cultural implications, including negative impacts on the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, and stressing the necessity to adopt concrete measures in order to reverse it,

Noting the findings of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment and its conclusion that to "attain the 2010 biodiversity target of a substantial reduction in the rate of loss of biological diversity, will require an unprecedented effort",

Conscious of the need for effective education to raise public awareness for achieving the threefold objective of the Convention and the 2010 biodiversity target,

1. *Declares* 2010 the International Year of Biodiversity;

2. *Designates* the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity as the focal point for the International Year of Biodiversity and invites the secretariat to cooperate with other relevant United Nations bodies, multilateral environmental agreements, international organizations and other stakeholders, with a view to bringing greater international attention to bear on the issue of the continued loss of biodiversity;

3. *Invites* all Member States to establish national committees for the International Year of Biodiversity;

4. *Encourages* all Member States and other stakeholders to take advantage of the International Year of Biodiversity to increase awareness of the importance of biodiversity by promoting actions at the local, regional and international levels;

5. *Calls upon* all Member States and relevant international organizations to support the activities to be organized by developing countries, especially the most vulnerable among them, with particular attention to the special needs of African countries, least developed countries, small island developing States, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

6. *Invites* relevant international organizations as well as relevant global and regional environmental conventions to communicate efforts made towards the successful implementation of the objective of the International Year of Biodiversity;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution and to include in that report a comprehensive and substantive analysis of the implementation of the 2010 Johannesburg target on biodiversity.